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SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

## ALBANIA SIGNS TRADE PACT WITH BULGARIA; VALONA HARBOR CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS

TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AID TO ALBANIA -- Liria, No 424, 17 Feb 50

A dispatch from the Albanian Telegraph Agency (ATSh) dated 19 January reports that a trade agreement providing for an exchange of goods and payments and an agreement for technical aid to Albania in 1950 were signed in Sofia on 18 January by representatives of the Bulgarian and Albanian governments. Z. Vasil Konomi, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Albania in Sofia, signed for the Albanian government, and Z. Dobri Alekseyev, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Trade, signed for Bulgaria.

CLOSED AT REQUEST OF USSR -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 2407, 21 Nov 49

It has been learned through diplomatic sources that the Albanian government has closed off the harbor area of Valona at the request of the Soviet Military Mission. Foreigners are strictly prohibited from entering the area.

Valona is situated across from the island of Saseno, where the Russians are reportedly building a large U-boat base.

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